

Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club Newsletter

July, 1986

Vol. 2 No. 2

SEA-PAC WRAP BY AL, WB7SIC



It is impossible to give proper credit to all of the people that helped make SEA-PAC '86 a success. The Newsletter isn't big enough! This is the first year where I did not spend my life, or so it has seemed in the past, on the phone

checking to make sure all was going well. The committees did a GREAT job and with very little direction. As an example, I received a phone call from a national manufacturer a week before the convention regarding his (Sales Manager) amazement at the quality and amount of seminars made available. This from a man who attends many conventions the year around.

The Ladies Program Committee came through with flying colors. A GREAT luncheon; I understand the "Get Acquainted Hour" at the Econo Lodge was filled with ladies both on Saturday morning as well as Sunday.

The vendors were impressed with our attention and said they would return again next year. The flea market guys did their best and as a result of their ongoing efforts we passed the 80 table mark. This puts us up there with the likes of the Tacoma Hamfair which isn't too shabby.

The security was excellent and very helpful in areas other than assigned posts. What the heck, everyone who was asked to DO, did it. Really, a great contribution from everyone involved.

Prizes? The special room worked out great. The Prize Committee, which used the room for sign making, information to attendees and, of course, a place to sit while working. They didn't do much sitting but did come through with determination in spite of a couple of goofs by yours truly. Nice job guys!

The financial picture is not as good as last year and this is due to two things. We spent a bunch on

advertising so as to offset the possible effect the ARRL Division Convention scheduled for Vancouver might have on us. The second reason is that we were down around 400 in attendance over last year. This had to be due to the Rose Parade falling on Saturday. Nineteen thousand registrations mailed out against our past mailing of six thousand doesn't add us to minus 400 hams attending! Preregistrations were up but the one day locals were off doing something else. We face the same situation next year unless we drastically alter our weekend date. Right now it's up in

GREAT JOB!

in the air as to the convention center availability, but we should know soon.

Finally, a financial report is forthcoming, along with the identity of the winner of the security committee special prize. Thanks to all of you "faithful" for a VERY smooth operation. It was so much fun - why don't we do it again!!

(Asst. Editor's note ... late word as we were going to press finds arrangements already made for next year's Sea-Pac Convention to be held May 29-31, 1987. How's that for quick negotiating!)

1986 OTVARC Officers

President: Greg Milnes	W7AGQ
Vice President: Willis Raines	N7DZR
Secretary: Jeff Freedman	K7JF
Treasurer: Randy Stinson	K27T
Trustee: Warren Knight	N7BLJ
Trustee: Linda Cereghino	N7CZY
Trustee: Randy Cobb	KA7HJT
Trustee: Dee Lynch	KA7NPN
Trustee: Al Berg	WB7SIC

Meetings are held on the SECOND Wednesday of each month at the Elks Club, 3500 S. W. 104 Avenue, Beaverton, Oregon.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



To the Editor:

A rather discordant note was struck following the June meeting at Beaverton Elks Lodge. As I was leaving at the main entrance I was informed that my attire was inappropriate for their establishment. I had a good sports shirt on but due to the hot weather had worn knee length short trousers. They were dark blue, clean and would have probably been acceptable in most restaurants in Portland.

I do not recall seeing any mention in newsletters or in signs at the Elks club calling attention to such details. If the Elks are going to enforce such rules it would be wise to inform the membership in the newsletter. If I had known of such a rule I would not have worn short pants -- but with the hot weather and the Elks Club's sometimes not too great air conditioning I think it would be time to look for a more congenial meeting place.

Another point in a negative direction is the \$5.50 buffet dinner. Prices have crept up but the quality of meal and choices have not. A small salad plate with a bare-bones salad (not even any tomatoes in it) and one vegetable choice, and a meat dish, potatoes, etc hardly seems worth the price. The lasagna was so tough you had to cut it with a knife. At that price it would seem that a dessert would be offered -- maybe at least a dixie cup of ice cream. Some of the regular buffet type restaurants offer a lot more for less money.

T3, Ron Meyer, KTBT

The OTUARC Newsletter is published monthly by the Newsletter Committee of the Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club, Inc. The opinions, views and recommendations of its contributors are not necessarily those of the Club, its officers, or the Newsletter Committee.

Articles may be submitted to PO BOX 25545, Portland, Oregon 97225-0545. Cutoff date is the 20th of each month.

Lorna Campbell, KA7RFD, Editor-In-Chief
Jeff Freedman, K7JF, Assistant Editor

Membership: 223 Circulation: 250



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**SEA-PAC '86
SECURITY
THANKS THE
FOLLOWING**

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K7TGD, Ron
KA7TZT, Marvel
KQ7U, Bill
KA7UFG, Pat
WB7VGS, Ralph
AE7W, Jim

**YOU DID IT AND MANY
THANKS TO YOU ALL**

MIKE, KE7HS & RICK, KA5OLH

SPOTLIGHT ON A HAM

BY JEFF, KA7UFG



"I enjoy ham radio almost more than anything else I do."

That judgment could almost be predicted, coming as it does from OTVARC President, Greg Milnes, W7AGQ. Greg has been a ham since 1955, when he followed his Father's

example by getting his license. Greg's dad, W7CRN, has been a ham for 50 years by now and the eighty-plus years of hamming between father and son must be close to a record.

Greg listed DX and working on the Oregon Emergency Net as his favorite ham activities. He can be found most often at 3.980 MHz on the OEN and mobile on the 147.92/32 MHz repeater.

Greg joined OTVARC about three years ago. "I got acquainted with the club by giving a speech on the laws regarding radio towers. I enjoyed the companionship and joined up," he said.

Greg's rig is an ICOM 751, transmitting from a 100 foot free-standing tower; something of a monument to that well-known ham trait of ingenuity.



"It's adapted from a section of a construction crane," he said. "It sits in a concrete base about eight feet by six feet." Greg apparently also got a great deal on the concrete.

Other noteworthy remarks from Greg: "I'd like to move up to Extra class soon (from Advanced) but right now I'm almost like a novice on CW. I hardly ever work CW... maybe one contact a year since I got my General ticket."

On his OTVARC Presidency: "I'm having a good time. I'd like to see the club do some more special interest activities, like working with Novices to get the new operators up and running. Greg would also like to see a DX-interest group or committee

and the return of construction night projects. "Overall, we need to build on what's been done before and make it better."

Favorite ham anecdote: Many years ago, Greg was working portable from Washington, D. C. "I was tracking my parents and sister as they were driving through Canada. One night, my father pulled into the Fontainebleau Hotel in Old Quebec City. The parking attendant asked him to move his car, because the lot was reserved for VIPs only. Since Dad and I were in radio contact, he explained to the attendant that he was in touch by radio with Washington. I gave my greetings over the air; that was enough to convince the attendant that Dad was a bigwig and he got the red carpet treatment from there." Ah, the power of radio waves.

When he's not working the Oregon Emergency Network, adding to his 205 countries on DX or discharging his duties as club President, Greg is a Circuit Court Judge at the Washington County Courthouse in Hillsboro. On the day we caught up with him, Greg was working to keep juveniles on the straight and narrow.

Greg and his wife Loretta live in Hillsboro with their three children numerous dogs, cats and other backyard wildlife. As a native Oregonian, we are proud to feature Greg in our first spotlight column.

NEWS FROM OTHER CLUBS

COMPILED BY JEFF, K7JF

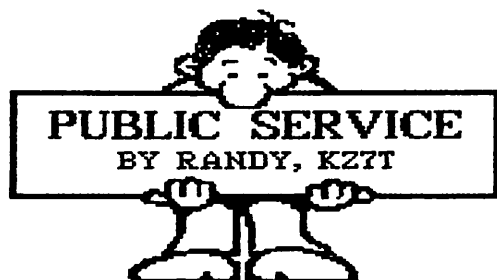
From McMinnville, we learn of the passing of Bill Lucas, W7AEF, former owner of Portland Radio Supply.

Salem notes that Ernie, W7JMU became a Silent Key on June 4. The Salem Red Cross ARES Group is getting re-organized. More info, contact Fred, AFTS.

The Clark County ARC is holding a flea market on July 16 at the FUD Building next to I-5 in Vancouver. Lots of goodies. Contact John, KA7ICU.

We're really glad to exchange Newsletters with other clubs around the Northwest. Right now we send out more than we receive... so where's yours?





Well here it is halfway through the year for Public Service. The first part of this year was a little slower than last year but the last part will be busier. As of June 1 there were 28 people who worked 288 hours and drove 1,292 miles.

The last race we worked in May was one of the most enjoyable that we have ever worked. It was the 62 KGW Fun Run. There were people carrying outhouses, one fella was dressed in armor, there were three people carrying a very large newspaper that weighed at least 30 pounds. I would like to thank Lorna, KA7RFD; Bud, KC7PS and Mike, KE7HS for helping me.

The month of June was very busy with Sea-Pac, Field Day, The Cascade Run Off and the Stroh's Run for Liberty. We do have enough people cover them.

The month of July will have the M.S. 150 which is a bike tour from Portland to Tacoma, next is the Haag Lake Triathlon, then it's Salty's water happening and finally the Mid-Summer classic.

I would like to say something about Sea-Pac Convention. I feel it went as smoothly as any ham fair that I have been to and it is all due to the hard work of many people too numerous to mention. I talked to all of the exhibitors and they were very happy with the fair and will be back next year.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- | | | |
|------|-------|----------------------------|
| July | 12-13 | IARU RadioSport Contest |
| | 12-13 | Multiple Sclerosis Bike150 |
| | 13 | Haag Lake Triathlon |
| | 19 | Clark Co. Ham Flea Market |
| | 25-27 | NW DX Convention, Renton |
| Aug | 2-3 | 10-10 Summer QSO Party |
| | 2-3 | ARRL UHF Contest |
| | 2-3 | OEN Annual Picnic |
| | 16-17 | Tacoma Hamfair |
| | 22-23 | Hood-to-Coast Relay |
| | 24 | Summer's End Run |
| Sept | 5-7 | ARRL Natl Convention |
| | 12-14 | Beaverton Good Neighbors |
| | 18-21 | Artquake |
| | 27-28 | OTVARC Campout, Vernonia |
| | 28 | Portland Marathon |

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2. ATTACH COPY OF PRESENT LICENSE

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THE COMPUTER COLUMN

BY VAN, KE7BB

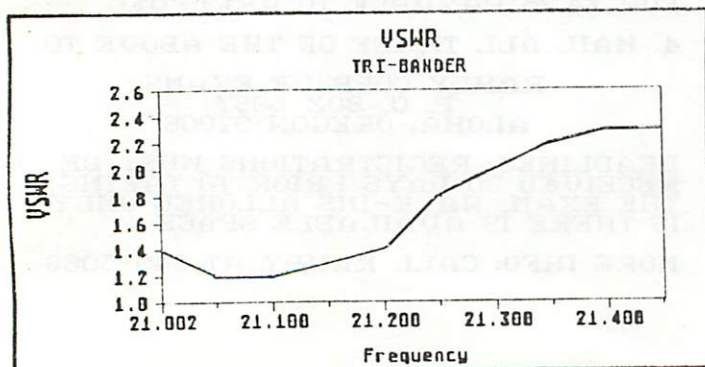
If a picture is worth a thousand words, an equipment demonstration must be worth at least a thousand pictures. At the June meeting of OTUARC three club members demonstrated the use of computer in the ham shack.

Dee, KA7NPN; Ernie, W7AXJ and Jack, KA7H0J each demonstrated computer use with amateur radio. Dee actually carried on a couple of QSOs and Ernie had a "video" of his station's setup and operation with a computer on RTTY. Besides having a computer, Dee's and Ernie's equipment had interfaces between their computers and their rigs. Jack's demonstration did not use a transceiver, but he did show a practical, worthwhile use of a computer in the ham shack! I will spend the rest of my time commenting on this.

Jack had an Atari computer loaded with a spread sheet, a Lotus 1,2,3 clone and he had programmed it into a formula for calculating USWR given forward and reflected power and the USWR over a frequency range were displayed in tabular form. Jim, AE7W, who was familiar with both the computer and the spread sheet sat down at the keyboard and rather quickly made the program display USWR vs. frequency on a graph. (For further details on this particular calculation see pages 29-32 of the February issue of QST.) The point being that if you have a computer with a spread sheet program, a fairly common household and business combination, and no intention of using the computer as an adjunct to your rig, you can still use the computer in amateur radio.

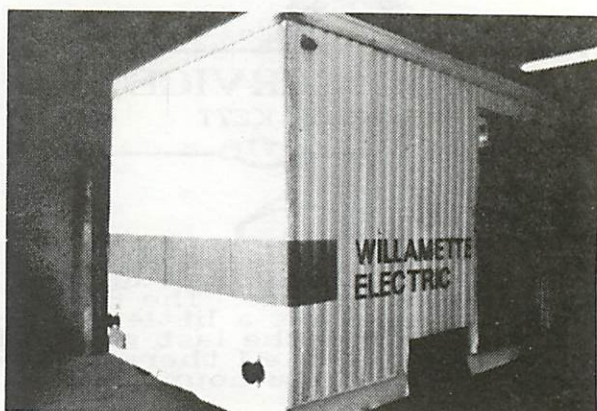
To belabor this point further, if one were to simply measure the USWR with an appropriate bridge over a frequency range that spans one of the ham bands, the computer can display the USWR vs. frequency easily. For example, information in tabular form was sent to my computer via telephone lines and reduced to the graph plotted below. To coordinate the transmission of data via the telephone line, we used two meter simplex. Here is a case of amateur radio aiding computers.

Thus from a bare minimum of equipment and data we have shown one small facet of a computer application to amateur radio.



TRAILER UPDATE

BY DEE, KA7NPN



This is the first in a series of several articles which will discuss the progress of the club's Emergency/Public Services trailer.

Each article will include photos or drawings to show how we're coming along. The above photo was taken in May of this year; much has been done since that time. Donations and discounts on materials have come from many sources in support of this project. Our thanks to those who are supporting this worthwhile endeavor. Once completed this Fall, we will have a highly functional unit to support our club activities in the various public sectors.

More in-depth reporting on the trailer's progress in coming issues.



LUCKY'S TRIVIA TREK

BY LUCKY, W7LRB

2A. What U. S. city had the first entertainment broadcast station in 1920?

2B. What is the call sign of the Oregon Emergency Services Net Manager?

2C. Who invented the first transmitter?

2D. What is the approximate percentage of Extra Class licensees in Oregon?

Don't forget to save your Newsletter and send in your answers after next month's quiz. We'll tell you how soon.

STANLEY HAMM-TOWERS

PART 1

BY STAN, W7NI



I thought I'd kick off my first column writing about something I'm familiar with... towers.

If you come anywhere near my house, you'll notice I have several. If you look close, you'll notice they're all open-lattice construction and well guyed, except the little one which

supports only OSCAR antennas. Even that one is bracketed to the house.

I acquired my first tower in New Hampshire in 1971 and I'm still using it; it was used when I got it. Before the towers, I used wooden poles. I found out they were very difficult to put up, take down and move to a new QTH. (The pole I used when I was WB6ENX was 110' long and weighed 4,500 lbs. It stayed in California.)

There are lots of kinds of towers you could put up...tubular types, crank-ups, hydraulic, stacked sections, etc. I obviously prefer stacked sections, well guyed. The reasons are many but boil down to just one...safety. To the uninitiated, the advantages of a crank-up seem overwhelming:

1. You only have to climb 20' to work on your antenna.
2. It must be safer than a guyed, stacked tower because it will not be up when the wind is blowing.
3. Your neighbors may prefer it since it's not very high when cranked down.

Let's look at these advantages one at a time:

1. All manufacturers of crank-ups specifically state that they are not to be climbed. Most people think this means "don't climb crank-ups when they are up." What it really means is Don't Ever Climb Them.

I must tell you the story of a good friend of mine in Fairbanks, Alaska. His crank-up was down... at least the cable was slack. He climbed it to do a last minute adjustment on his antenna before a contest. It was Friday afternoon and he was home alone. As he reached the top, he was holding on by one hand and his arm was through the tower. With his other hand he was preparing to fasten his safety belt.



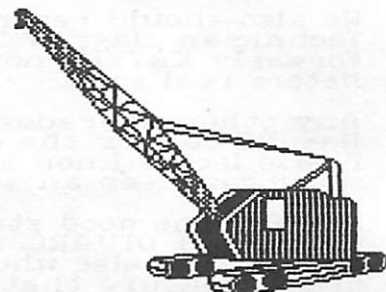
Suddenly, the tower telescoped downward about two inches pinching his arm, hard. With his other hand still free, he was able to reach a hammer in his safety belt and pry the tower back up enough to free

the pinched arm. He jerked his injured arm free and fell backward off the tower. One arm injured, one arm holding a hammer and safety belt not fastened. The good news is that he was only up 20'. The bad news is that it was winter in Fairbanks and the ground was like a slab of cement. The really bad news is that he broke his back on impact and could not move. Worse yet, it was 20 degrees below zero and he was freezing to death. Fortunately, his neighbor heard his yells for help and he was saved. True story.

So, you say, how do I work on my antenna then? There are three answers to that.

1. Use a ladder leaning against the tower.
2. Use a bucket truck.
3. Get a tilt-over concrete base mount type of crank-up.

2. The truth of the matter is that it probably will be up when the wind blows. Unless it is a motorized crank-up, you will get very tired of cranking. A 71' crank-up takes 20



minutes of hard work to get it fully extended. Soon you'll be checking the weather forecast to see if it's OK to leave the tower up. It could be real nasty if you forget, or, Heaven forbid, the weatherman is ever wrong.

Unguyed crankups really won't hold large antennas. Look at the specifications. Most crank-ups are specified to hold x number of square feet of antenna at a wind speed of 50 MPH. Catch that, 50 MPH! The EIA (Electronic Industry Association) and the UBC (Uniform Building Code) both issue maps of the U.S. showing how strong to expect the winds to be. Winds are expected to exceed 70 MPH at times in all areas of the U.S. The tower companies expect you to keep your tower retracted. Eight square feet is a large antenna for a crank-up. This is a medium tribander.

3. I think antennas low to the ground are more visible and objectionable to neighbors. If you actually use the antenna for transmitting when cranked down, it is more likely to create TUI since the ground wave will be much stronger. Also, it will be on the same level as most TV antennas; pointing straight at them.

TO BE CONTINUED

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

BY JEFF, K7JF



Another very welcome result of the Sea-Pac Convention was the registration of a whole bunch of new members into the club. We offered a special initiation and dues fee for the weekend, extended the sale to the June club meeting and came away with FOURTEEN new members.

But first, we must welcome Terry Lang, KA7YDF, who became a member in late May. We're really sorry for missing you Terry, but will make sure Kathryn gets you into her feature story next month!

We also should report the upgrade to Technician class of Tim VanDenBos, formerly KA7YL, now N7IFQ. CU on Two Meters real soon.

Any other upgrades from either the May VE test or the exams at Seaside? Please let us know as soon as possible so we can keep an accurate roster.

Now for the good stuff... Ahem, fellow members of OTUARC, fellow amateurs and anyone else who cares. It is with great pleasure that I announce the newest members to the OTUARC family:

H. LEA T. BALL, AL7W
ED WELCH, KORUD
CHET "LUCKY" MCCOY, W7LRB
FRED KINSLEY, N7DSM
GARY GILHAM, KA7PLB
BILL LONG, N7DJW
FRED THOMBS, KI7J
JEAN THOMBS, KG7X
ROGER HANDY, KE7BK
CLARENCE PECKHAM, N17U
BILL REYNOLDS, WB7DWT
LYNN HURD, WB7UNU
GARY CLIFTON, KA7LCO
ALEC KARTY, KOEKP

KUDOS BY MARVEL, KA7TZT

I'd like to extend my thanks for a very successful Ladies Program at the Sea-Pac Convention. Special attention needs to go to Fran, N1ZE, Val, KA7QEV and Kathryn, KA7UMB.

Fran and Val, besides helping with the programs, donated many prizes for the luncheon.

Thanks also go to Sharon O'Dell (a friend of Vals) who made the big red program sign which hung in the lobby, and to Bud, KC7PS, for all the banners and direction signs. I hope I haven't missed anyone.



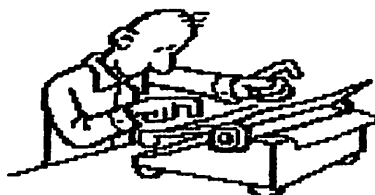
HEARD AROUND THE CLUB

BY LORNA, KA7RFD

How's this for a warm fuzzie? Our own Ron, K7TGD, was sitting at the Sea-Pac Banquet thinking how nice it would be if he could win the prize for his folks. HE DID. Then he kept the secret for a week, presenting the voucher (for 2 nights accommodation along with meals at any Red Lion Hotel) to his Mom and Dad at a family Father's Day brunch. Wish I had a son like you!



Then there's Mary Berg who won a multiband antenna at Sea-Pac. Seems Al, WB7SIC, thought that was going to be his private property. I would think that at least is worth a good night out on the town, or we could have an auction at a Club meeting for you, Mary.



Roger, KA7RNN, and Marvel, KA7TZT, headed out of town towards Mt. Rushmore directly after Sea-Pac and didn't know if they would be back in time for Field Day. Maybe they thought they would be asked to do more work.

Congratulations to Mr. Congeniality, John, NE7W, presented with the Antronics Gold Key at the last meeting. John was voted "Most Congenial/Best Operator" on the night of the Rusty Key Contest. Couldn't happen to a nicer fella!

Jeff, K7JF notes we receive a number of newsletters from other clubs in the area each month. If you're interested we can make them available to you; one even comes from Tampa Bay, Florida. Likewise, we send our Newsletter to other clubs and organizations around the country. Jeff saw a recent copy of "Radiosporting Magazine," devoted mainly to DXing, and has asked their Canadian editor to be put on the trading list.

Thanks again to Jack, KA7H0J, Ernie, W7AXJ and Dee, KA7NPN for the excellent program last meeting on computers in the ham shack. I'm sure we all came away with a better appreciation for those darn machines.

HAVE A HAPPY AND SAFE SUMMER

MEETING PROGRAM JULY 9

BY JOHN, WA7CZA

THE SUNSET CORRIDOR

Our guest will be Betty Atteberry of the Sunset Corridor Association. Betty's presentation will include a short video tape on the corridor and its national and international promotion. She will bring you up to date on the history of the corridor, present activity and what lies in the future. Her presentation should be interesting in that what happens in the corridor will have a significant impact on all who live in the area.

YL COLUMN BY FRAN, N1ZE SEA-PAC

Morning coffee and doughnuts for Saturday and Sunday were attended by over 100 YLs. This was the first year we have had this and we had a wonderful response from all the ladies.

Saturday morning, after coffee, Stephen Reckon, Director of Clatsop County Historical Society, gave a lecture on the history of Seaside, Clatsop County and numerous

points of interest. This was attended by 28 ladies and was quite interesting.

The ladies luncheon at the Shilo Inn was a sellout, with 64 in attendance. The lunch was a bit too much food for most of us, but was an excellent meal. Rondi Johnson was our guest speaker and gave a very nice presentation of part of her collection of "Vintage Lingerie", a collection of lingerie dating from 1860 to 1960. As a special treat for the ladies Rondi's models, Donna Rae and Priscilla, modelled some of the fashions. Val, KA7QEU, and myself donated doorprizes for the luncheon, which were very well received.

An excellent slide and sound show on wildflowers and fauna of the Oregon coast was also presented by Neil Main followed by a demonstration and instruction on drying flowers with Lyn from the Natural Nook Flower Shop filling in for our original guest speaker.

It was a very successful year for the YLs at SEA-PAC. The programs were well received and next year will be improved, if only by this year's experience. I would like to thank the Committee, Marvel, KA7T2T, Val, KA7QEU, Kathryn, KA7UMB for all the hard work putting this program together and Brian, KA7KIR, for his help getting things together at the right time.



LORNA'S LOOKOUT EDITORIAL BY LORNA, KA7RFD

SEA-PAC is wrapped up for another year; I would like to add my two cents worth on what an excellent job everybody did. Many compliments were received and I think we should all be proud of ourselves.

Also happy to report that security was 100%. Willie's, N7DZR, missing projector was still with Ron, WA7GFE, who had borrowed it for Col. Fullerton's presentation. Ron didn't get back into town until the night of the OTUARC meeting.

The majority of you liked the new Newsletter. We're pretty pleased with it ourselves but we are planning a few changes. Numero uno - a darker ribbon for the printer. We've changed the font this time, so hope it's easier to read. Van, KE7BB, our Computer Columnist, will be writing an article on how we are putting it together in a future edition.

Now a friendly reminder. Shorts, for ladies or gentlemen, are not acceptable attire at the Elks Lodge. Neither are hats for men. The Beaverton BPOE kindly lets us use the meeting room at no charge provided we eat dinner, so please adhere strictly to their dress code.

While we are on the subject of the Elks, please read our only "Letter to the Editor". Maybe you agree. Our suggestion box seems to have fallen by the wayside, so here's your forum for any meeting ideas or suggestions you have to improve the club.

Personally, I feel we would be hard pressed to find a better meeting site and any change of venue would be a decision by our members, but let's have your comments.

Welcome to all our new members - 15 in all. Photos will appear in our next issue, together with an article written by Kathryn, KA7UMB.



LUCKY WINNERS BY BUD, KC7PS

Here is list of the "LUCKY WINNERS" at the major prize drawing held Sunday at the Sea-Pac Convention. Congratulations to all.

FT-980	Francis Schroder, KN7D
TR-2600	Jim Wagner KA7EHK
PK-64	Phil Biehl N7FWL
IC-2AT	Dick Zimmerle KA7WRY
IC-2AT	John Kelley W7KKK
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AUGUST 16 & 17, 1986

Pacific Lutheran University
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All Licensed Amateurs Are Expected To Register

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_____ 6 Foot Table(s) at \$ _____ (see below)

**DINNER RESERVATION
DEADLINE IS
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HURRY! Send your check early. If postmarked on or before August 6th, you will receive a bonus stub for each registration ordered.

NOTE: Registration and tickets will be held for arrival.
Pre-registration confirmation cards will be mailed upon receipt of payment.
Dormitory rooms available from PLU. No reservations required.

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Additional tables — \$13 each for weekend.

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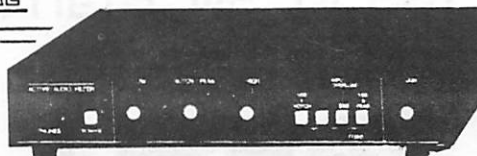
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